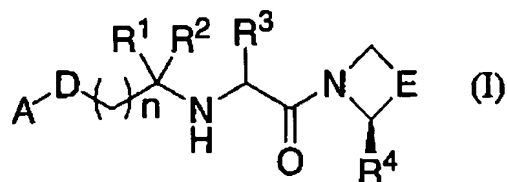


## ABSTRACT

The invention aims to provide a dipeptidyl peptidase IV inhibitor which is satisfactory in respect of activity, stability and safety and has an excellent action as a pharmaceutical agent. The invention is directed to a compound represented by the following general formula or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof:



wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  each represents hydrogen, an optionally substituted C1-6 alkyl group, or  $-COOR^5$  whereupon  $R^5$  represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted C1-6 alkyl group, or  $R^1$  and  $R^2$ , together with a carbon atom to which they are bound, represent a 3- to 6-membered cycloalkyl group,  $R^3$  represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted C6-10 aryl group,  $R^4$  represents a hydrogen or a cyano group, D represents  $-CONR^6-$ ,  $-CO-$  or  $-NR^6CO-$ ,  $R^6$  represents hydrogen or an optionally substituted C1-6 alkyl group, E represents  $-(CH_2)_m-$  whereupon m is an integer of 1 to 3,  $-CH_2OCH_2-$ , or  $-SCH_2-$ , n is an integer of 0 to 3, and A represents an optionally substituted bicyclic heterocyclic group or bicyclic hydrocarbon group.